

## **What does education mean to you and your future?”**

### **An essay, poster, and photography contest for South Carolina students.**

The South Carolina Education Oversight Committee (EOC) is sponsoring a contest to highlight its 2020 Vision, a plan to drive educational improvement in the state. The 2020 Vision sets the goal that by the year 2020, all students in South Carolina will graduate with the knowledge and skills to compete in the global economy.

For the contest, students are invited to answer the question **“What does education mean to you and your future?”** in three different submission categories:

- Essays
- Posters
- Photographs

**Eligibility:** Any public or private elementary or middle school student (kindergarten through grade 8) in South Carolina is eligible to participate. Entries will be judged in separate categories.

**Objective:** The objective of the contest is to help students visualize the importance of education to their futures.

**Details:**

- Essays should be limited to 500 words.
- Posters should be standard poster board size (22x28 in.).

Photographs can be color or black and white. They should be accompanied by a brief description that explains how the photo answers the question “What does education mean to you and your future?”

All entries may be submitted electronically to [rking@eoc.sc.gov](mailto:rking@eoc.sc.gov) or mailed to:

Education Oversight Committee  
Attention: Contest  
PO Box 11867  
Columbia, SC 29211

All entries will become the property of the EOC and will not be returned.

**Prizes:**

Private donations are funding the following prizes:

One overall winner representing elementary schools and one overall winner representing middle schools will each receive the New iPad®.

Runner-ups will receive a \$50 gift card to Books-a-Million®.

Winners will be announced in the local media through press releases and winning entries will be posted on the EOC website.

**Deadline:** All entries must be sent electronically or postmarked by no later than **Friday, May 11, 2012.**

**Identification:** Each entry should include the following information

- NAME
- HOME ADDRESS
- SCHOOL NAME
- GRADE IN SCHOOL
- SCHOOL CONTACT PERSON AND EMAIL ADDRESS

**Notification of winners:** All winners will be posted on the EOC website ([www.eoc.sc.gov](http://www.eoc.sc.gov)) by May 18. In addition, school contacts will be notified at each of the winning students' schools.

Awards and prizes will be distributed to the schools where they can be presented to students.

**Questions:** Please direct questions to Regina King at [rking@eoc.sc.gov](mailto:rking@eoc.sc.gov) or (803) 734-6148.

**About the EOC:** The EOC, created by the S.C. General Assembly, is an independent, non-partisan group of 18 educators, business leaders, and elected officials. Through ongoing review of K-12 education, the EOC works to hold the state accountable for building the education system South Carolina needs to compete.